

Message Text

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PAGE 01 ZANZIB 00017 101406Z

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ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 PA-04

RSC-01 USIA-15 PRS-01 SPC-03 NIC-01 L-03 AID-20 PM-07

DRC-01 EA-11 EB-11 NEA-10 /117 W

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R 101010Z JAN 74

FM AMCONSUL ZANZIBAR

TO /SECSTATE WASHDC 0974

INFO AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

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E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR PINT TZ

SUBJECT: ZANZIBAR REVOLUTION TENTH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS
UNDERWAY

1. WITH AT LEAST 38 DELEGATIONS ON HAND, CELEBRATIONS OF TENTH ANNIVERSARY OF ZANZIBAR'S REVOLUTION BEGAN FORMALLY ON JANUARY 8, WITH WELL-ATTENDED CEREMONY FOR UNVEILING OF STATUE OF KARUME AT AFRO-SHIRAZI HEADQUARTERS, AND INAUGURATION OF FAIR DISPLAYING ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF PAST TEN YEARS. FIRST VP JUMBE DELIVERED BRIEF ADDRESS AT UNVEILING WHICH PREDICTABLY PAID HOMAGE TO KARUME BUT CONTAINED NOTHING NEW OF SUBSTANCE.

.2. PRC DELEGATION, HEADED BY VICE MINISTER FOR AGRICULTURE AND FORESTRY HSIAO PENG, WAS ACCORDED SPECIAL MEETING WITH JUMBE ON MORNING OF JANUARY 8, ONLY DELEGATION THUS FAR KNOWN TO HAVE BEEN SO HONORED. RADIO ACCOUNT OF MEETING INDICATES THAT IT WAS LIMITED TO EXCHANGE OF FRATERNAL GREETINGS AND OTHER PLEASANTRIES: THERE WAS NO ANNOUNCEMENT, AS HAD BEEN ANTICIPATED BY SOME HERE, OF UNY NEW CHINESE PROJECTS OR COMMITMENTS. MORE SIGNIFICANT WAS SIGNING ON SAME DAY OF 10-YEAR MANAGEMENT AGREEMENT BY GOZ AND EAST INDIA HOTELS CORPORATION FOR OPERATION OF ZANZIBAR'S LARGE, NEW TOURIST HOTEL.

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PAGE 02 ZANZIB 00017 101406Z

3. PLETHORA OF CEREMONIES AND FESTIVITIES HAVE NOT OBSCURED

FACT OF FAIRLY STRONG CASE OF PRE-ANNIVERSARY JITTERS. ZANZIBAR HAS BEEN UNDER "PARTIAL ALERT" SINCE JANUARY 1. INTENSIFIED HOUSE SEARCHES HAVE BEEN CONTINUING INTERMITTENTLY FOR LAST WEEK TO 10 DAYS, MOVEMENTS OF POPULATION HAVE BEEN CURTAILED, AND SOME ARRESTS OF SUSPECTED ANTI-GOZ ELEMENTS HAVE BEEN MADE, REPORTEDLY INCLUDING ONE GROUP IN A MOSQUE WHICH ALLEGEDLY WAS "PRAYING AGAINST THE GOVERNMENT". LATTER GROUP IS SAID TO HAVE BEEN RELEASED SUBSEQUENTLY ON JUMBE'S ORDER. PERHAPS MOST EXTREME RUMOR GOING ROUNDS HERE, INTERESTING EVEN IF NOT TRUE, IS THAT ANTI-AIRCRAFT BATTERIES ARE TO BE SET UP ON ROOF OF HIGH-RISE APARTMENTS IN ZANZIBAR TOWN. MOST OF SECURITY MEASURES ARE PROBABLY BEST SEEN AS STRICTLY PRECAUTIONARY, BUT THEY REFLECT A REAL CONCERN BY SOME OFFICIALS THAT ANTI-GOZ ELEMENTS MAY AT LEAST ATTEMPT TO STIR UP DIFFICULTIES ON OCCASION OF TENTH ANNIVERSARY.
MACFARLANE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: SECURITY, MANAGEMENT, INDEPENDENCE CELEBRATIONS, MEETINGS, ARRESTS, POLITICAL SITUATION, MINISTERIAL VISITS, HOTELS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 10 JAN 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: MorefiRH
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974ZANZIB00017
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: DG ALTERED
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: ZANZIBAR
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740149/aaaabujl.tel
Line Count: 77
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: MorefiRH
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 04 SEP 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <04 SEP 2002 by boyleja>; APPROVED <04-Sep-2002 by MorefiRH>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: ZANZIBAR REVOLUTION TENTH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS UNDERWAY
TAGS: PFOR, PINT, TZ, CH
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005